



COMPUTER USE IN INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education is committed to optimizing student learning and teaching. The Board considers student access to a computer network, including the Internet, to be a powerful and valuable educational and research tool, and encourages the use of computers and computer-related technology in and out of district classrooms solely for the purpose of advancing and promoting learning and teaching.

The computer network can provide a forum for learning various software applications and through online tools, platforms, services, databases, bulletin boards and electronic mail, can significantly enhance educational experiences and provide statewide, national and global communication opportunities for staff and students.

All users of the district's computer network and the Internet must understand that use of the district's computers, network and technology is a privilege, not a right, and that use entails responsibility, as outlined in 4526-E, Computer/Network Acceptable Use Policy form. The district reserves the right to control access to the Internet for all users of its computers and network. The district may either allow or prohibit certain kinds of online activity such as access to specific websites, programs or applications and the posting or downloading of content. As such, all district provided resources must be used in accordance with this policy and the Computer/Network Acceptable Use Policy form.

The School District has established regulations governing the use and security of the district's computer network. All users of the district's computer network and equipment shall comply with this policy and those regulations. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action as well as suspension and/or revocation of computer access privileges.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for designating the Manager of Instructional Technology to oversee the use of district computer resources. The Manager of Instructional Technology, in conjunction with other district administrators, will prepare in-service programs for the training and development of district staff in computer skills, and for the incorporation of computer use in appropriate subject areas.

In order to better protect personally identifiable information, and protect against invasion of privacy and identity theft, before students are directed by staff to use any internet-based educational software or application, staff must obtain approval from the district's Data Protection Officer. Any such services that require the release of student personally identifying information require a contract to be in place that includes data security and privacy protections required by New York State law, regulation and district policy, including adherence to the district's Parents' Bill of rights for Data Privacy and Security.

The Superintendent, working in conjunction with the designated purchasing agent for the district, the Manager of Instructional Technology and the Building Principals, will be responsible for the purchase and distribution of computer software and hardware throughout district schools. They shall prepare and submit, for the Board's approval, a comprehensive multi-year technology plan which shall be revised as necessary to reflect changing technology and/or district needs.

Note: Policy added

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